Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Fritz and Mary Bartels exchanged their wedding vows on May 23, 1953, promising to share their lives and love together for the rest of their days; and,

Whereas, Fritz and Mary gave life and love to nine children, and they in turn presented them with 13 grandchildren; and,

Whereas, The newly-wed couple of 50 years ago has been replaced by two devoted partners who have shared life's beauty and sorrow and have grown to love one another more because of their common journey; and,

Whereas, Through their lifelong dedication to the values of caring and sharing, Fritz and Mary have helped make South Dakota a great place to live and work; and,

Whereas, It is altogether fitting and proper that the Governor of South Dakota recognizes and commemorates the memorable milestones in the lives of the State's outstanding citizens:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 23, 2003, as

FRITZ AND MARY BARTELS DAY

in South Dakota, and I join with the honored couple's family and friends in wishing them continued health and happiness in a state that stands prouder today because of their contributions and commitment.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State